Docket No.: 58799-093 **PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Hitoshi AKIYAMA, et al.

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: July 16, 2003

Examiner:

For:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The relevance of Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 11-355681 is discussed in the present specification.

Serial No.:

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 16, 2003

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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION | | | ATTY. DOCKET NO. SERIAL NO. 58799-093 | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | APPLICANT Hitoshi AKIYAMA, et al. | | | | | | |
| (PTO-1449) | | | | FILING DATE July 16, 2003 | GROUP | | | | | |
| | | | | U.S. PATENT | F DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | | Yes | No | |
| * | | JP- | 11-355681 (w/ English Abstract) | 12/24/1999 | Shigeto Masuda et al. | | | | | |
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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.